

WEATHER FORECAST.  
Fair to-day; to-morrow partly cloudy;  
general southwest winds.  
Highest temperature yesterday, 88; lowest, 72.  
Detailed weather reports on last page.

# The Sun.

IT SHINES FOR ALL

VOL. LXXXV.—NO. 348.

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NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1918.—Copyright, 1918, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association.

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## LASSIGNY HEIGHTS FALL, NOYON HEMMED IN; GERMANS STAND ON OLD LINE TO HALT RUSH; FRENCH SLOW UP, HOLDING KEY TO SECTOR

### U. S. CHARTERED SHIP SUNK OFF FIRE ISLAND BY CIRCLING TORPEDO

Norse Freighter at First Evades Missile, Which Turns and Hits Her.

#### GYROSCOPE AT WORK

Captain and Crew of 20 Escape and Patrol Boat Lands Them Here.

#### NO WARNING BY U-BOAT

British Armed Merchantman Reported to Have Fought Submarine.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The steamship *Henry S. Hedges* has been torpedoed by a German submarine off the New Jersey coast, according to a report received late tonight by the Navy Department. No details were available, but it was presumed the steamship still was afloat.

A German submarine sank the Norwegian steamship *Sommerstad* twenty-five miles southeast of Fire Island Monday morning. She was struck amidships and went to the bottom only a few miles from the spot where the United States cruiser *San Diego* hit a mine and sank.

There was no loss of life by the sinking of the *Sommerstad*. Her captain and crew of thirty, putting off in two of the ship's small boats, were picked up by a navy patrol boat ten hours after the sinking.

That the U-boat which sank the *Sommerstad* had been lurking off Fire Island many hours was indicated by the radio messages when the *Sommerstad* reached an Atlantic port with the announcement that she had outdistanced a submarine in the zone where the *Sommerstad* was sunk. Officers of the fruit steamship said the ship's engines were pushed to the limit and that the U-boat gave up the chase about four hours before the *Sommerstad* was sunk.

British Ship Warned.

A British steamer that also arrived yesterday reported she had received radio messages when off Nantuxet informing her that enemy submarines were in her course. The master of the British vessel said one of the messages he received mentioned that one of the submarines had sunk a Danish steamship Monday morning. No report of the sinking of a Danish ship has been received, so it was assumed in marine circles last night that the message referred to the Norwegian freighter *Sommerstad*.

Fear that the Germans had perfected a wireless controlled torpedo were expended last night by high officials of the Navy Department, who studied carefully the report made by Capt. Hansen of the *Sommerstad* to the effect that the torpedo which sank his ship first passed under her bows and then, as the *Sommerstad* was plunging ahead at full speed, turned sharply to the left and returned, hitting its victim between the third and fourth holds on the port side.

Experts explained that the circular course described by the torpedo undoubtedly was affected by the weapon's gyroscope. They said the gyroscope could be so set before the torpedo was fired that the torpedo could be made to describe such a course, and that the trick had been done time and time again by American navy during torpedo practice, thus bringing the undischarged weapon back where it could be recovered easily instead of going to waste.

Ridiculed by Experts.

The experts ridiculed the idea put forward in some quarters that the odd course of the torpedo had been controlled by radio aboard the submarine. They said it was not at all uncommon for torpedoes fired by the Germans to take similar courses, but admitted such a thing of the gyroscopes made the torpedo doubly effective, especially where, as in the case of the *Sommerstad*, the vessel that has been missed by the torpedo is driven ahead at full speed.

The statement that the *Sommerstad* was one of the big ships chartered by the United States Shipping Board—was contained in an official report to the Navy Department by the commandant of the Third Naval District.

The submarine did not show itself upon the surface. Instead, its periscope appeared about six feet above the water. It was observed at a considerable distance, but the torpedo had been launched and was plunging ahead toward the *Sommerstad* before the ship's engines could be increased.

### 442 Lost as Torpedo Hits French Transport

PARIS, Aug. 13.—Four hundred and forty-two men are missing as a result of the torpedoing of the French steamer *Djemnah* in the Mediterranean the night of July 14-15 while bound from Bizerta to Alexandria with troops on board, according to an official announcement tonight.

Four days later the French steamer *Australien* also was torpedoed in the Mediterranean. Still another steamship was torpedoed, but remained afloat.

### 18 TO 45 DRAFT GETS SENATE O.K.

Committee Reports Measure and Gives Power to Wilson to End Strikes.

#### BILL MAY PASS MONDAY

Men Who Quit Jobs Must Join Army—Four Amendments Approved.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The Senate Committee on Military Affairs completed today its revision of the man power bill increasing the draft age limits to from 18 to 45 years, made four important amendments and voted unanimously to report the measure to the Senate. The age limits defined by Provost Marshal General Crowder were not changed.

Most important of the amendments was the modification of Senator Thomas's anti-strike amendment proposed by Senator Reed (Mo.). This action satisfied Senator Thomas and he withdrew his own amendment.

The Reed amendment provides that men exempted from military service by reason of employment in essential industries shall be drawn into the army if they forsake their work for any cause whatsoever except physical unfitness. Its language is:

"Provided, that when any person shall have been placed in a deferred or exempted class for any of the reasons in this paragraph set forth he shall not be entitled to remain therein unless he shall in good faith continue while physically able to do so to work at and follow such occupation, employment or business, if he fails to do so he shall again become subject to the draft. The President shall make regulations for enforcing this provision."

Wilson Gets Power.

Leaving the promulgation of the regulations in the hands of the President leaves him the power to break up any strike in an essential industry by giving the recalcitrant operatives the choice of working at their jobs or fighting. The committee members believe that in the present form the amendment is sufficiently drastic, and that it fortifies through direct legislation on the subject the "work or fight" order. At the same time it insures the power on the part of the Administration to force sustained and persistent effort by producers of war supplies of every sort, as well as ships.

The three other amendments dealt with the rights of women whose husbands may be serving with the colors, removing all obstacles to their employment in the Government service, the rights of enlisted men to receive commissions in either the army or the navy and to attend officers' training schools regardless of statutory limitations as to age, and with the rights of the men under 21 years of age at the time of entering the service to receive at Government expense that part of their education which their participation in the war would interrupt.

Plans for Education.

The amendment providing for continuing the education of the men called from academic halls and technical schools follows:

### REVENUE BILL ALMOST READY, M'ADOO TO FIGHT

He Will Contest With Committee To-day Over Excess Profits Scale.

#### ADOPT VOCATIONAL TAX

Professional Men and Retailers to Pay \$10 Each—Employees Exempt.

SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE SUN.  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The Ways and Means Committee has almost completed the new revenue bill. If the committee can straighten out its differences of opinion with the Treasury Department over the proposed scale of excess profits to be finally adopted, the measure will be introduced when the House meets Monday next. This assurance came from members of the committee today.

Secretary McAdoo will go before the committee to-morrow to fight out the differences of opinion which have arisen. The committee tentatively adopted today the report of the sub-committee on the vocational tax and incorporated in the bill a tax of \$10 on professional men and proprietors of any retail business, except doing an annual business of at least \$2,000. The proposed tax on wholesalers doing a business of \$200,000 or more was adopted also, and the license tax for that class of business men was fixed at \$25.

The 10 per cent. tax on leased wires and talking circuits was reviewed by the committee to-day, and newspapers and periodicals were exempted from its operation. Otherwise the tax was unchanged.

At the instance of one Republican member the committee voted to impose a 10 per cent. tax on the retail sale of platinum jewelry in addition to the 10 per cent. tax on jewelry manufacture. This tax will be paid by the purchaser, and in order that close track may be kept of all the platinum in the country, jewelers selling any article containing platinum must ascertain and forward to the Bureau of Internal Revenue the name and address of every person making a purchase of platinum jewelry.

In the vocational tax employees, farmers, clergymen and school teachers are exempt. The committee also made a change in the income tax provisions so that no tax need be paid to the American Government on income earned in foreign countries. This applies particularly to Canada and England, where in many cases under existing circumstances it has been necessary for Americans to pay two scales of heavy taxes on portions of their incomes. This is particularly true of engineers and trainmen who have international runs.

The committee has before it for action to-morrow, before Mr. McAdoo is heard, two proposals to raise rates already tentatively adopted. One is to raise some of the rates on individual income surtaxes, and the other is to increase some of the higher rates in the estate tax.

### U. S. Tobacco Worth Real Gold in France

"SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE. —Just a few lines to let you know how pleased I was with the tobacco you sent. You probably know that American tobacco is worth gold here. It is the main part of a boy in France's life. I hope the people in the States will keep up the good work. Sometimes the boys get blue, realizing how far we are from home, and your smokes certainly were a package of cheer. Hoping you will continue the good work you are doing for the boys willing to give their lives for Uncle Sam."

FRANK K. LISIAK, Captain, 102nd Infantry, 26th Division, U. S. Army.

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### Austrian Kaiser Will Confer With Germans

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 13.—Emperor Charles of Austria, with Baron Burian, Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, Prince von Hohenlohe, Austrian Ambassador at Berlin, and Count von Wedel, German Ambassador at Vienna, is expected at German main headquarters to-morrow to discuss all pending questions, according to Berlin advices to the *Frankfurter Zeitung*.

The advice adds that M. Joffe, Russian Ambassador to Germany, had left Berlin for Moscow to obtain the ratification of a treaty, supplementing the Brest-Litovsk treaty, which had been initiated August 10.

### CZECHS HAILED AS BRITISH ALLY

Formal Recognition Is Given to Three Armies in Field Against Bolsheviks.

#### ULTIMATUM TO TROTZKY

Germans Preparing to Take Petrograd—Tenton Papers See New War Menace.

LONDON, Aug. 13.—The British Government has issued a declaration formally recognizing the Czech-Slovak army as an allied nation, and the Czech-Slovak army as an allied force regularly waging warfare against the Central Powers. The text of the declaration follows:

"The beginning of the war the Czech-Slovak nation has resisted the common enemy by every means in its power. The Czech-Slovak army, fighting on three different battlefields, and attempting in Russia and Siberia to arrest the Germanic invasion. In consideration of its efforts to achieve independence Great Britain regards the Czech-Slovak army as an allied nation and recognizes the unity of the three Czech-Slovak armies as an allied and belligerent army waging regular warfare against Austria-Hungary and Germany."

"Great Britain also recognizes the right of the Czech-Slovak national council as the supreme organ of Czech-Slovak national interests, and as the present trustee of the future Czech-Slovak Government to exercise supreme authority over this allied and belligerent army."

It is reported from Moscow by way of Berlin that the diplomatic representatives of the Entente have handed a collective note to War Minister Trotsky demanding within three days an explanation of Premier Lenin's threat that Russia would accept the peace plan of the Entente.

The German newspapers show much perturbation over the situation in Russia as it affects Germany.

"Inexorable fate is driving Germany toward a fresh state of war with Russia unless a remedy shall be found at the latest moment," says the *Vossische Zeitung*.

The newspaper describes the German Embassy's flight from Moscow to Pskov as "a retreat from Russia," and continues:

"A nation torn asunder by a thousand conflicts and weakened by revolution and civil war has yet found the energy and unanimity to tear up the Brest-Litovsk peace treaty. This much is clear. The peace made at Brest-Litovsk no longer exists."

A new manifesto advocating the pitiless annihilation of all counter-revolutionaries has been issued by Premier Lenin, says the *Rhesische Westphalische Zeitung* of Essen. Peasants retaining grain beyond their personal needs will be arraigned before revolutionary courts as enemies of the people. Capital punishment will be inflicted on ill-fid traders.

KAISER FEARS OWN SOLDIERS. Even They Were Disarmed When Wilhelm Went to Brussels.

### GERMAN LOSSES TOTAL 350,000 AND 1,500 GUNS

Number of Prisoners Placed Between 70,000 and 80,000 by Allies.

#### MAKE TACTICAL CHANGES

Ludendorff Issues Orders Designed to Conserve Men and Material.

By PERRY ROBINSON.  
SPECIAL CABLE DESPATCH TO THE SUN FROM THE LONDON TIMES.

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WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, AUG. 13.—There is but little change to report in the British fighting front, the fighting having been local and confined to points on the north side of the Somme and near the junction with the French forces. In the last named area as well as around Bray we made small gains, while in the center, near Lihons, our men were subjected to two fierce counter attacks, which they repulsed.

I understand that calculations carefully made by allied officers place the enemy's loss in prisoners since the middle of July at between 70,000 and 80,000, and in guns more than 1,500. The total German casualties in the same period are believed to exceed 350,000.

Heavy losses of men evidently is a subject exercising the minds of the German supreme command to such a degree that they preach it at all seasons.

Gen. Ludendorff's Order.

Nothing is more instructive than an order issued by Gen. Ludendorff on June 25, copies of which have fallen into our hands. It is so interesting that it is reproduced nearly in full:

"All commanders of troops must be imbued with the idea that the war cannot be won by stubborn defense, but only by a further succession of vigorous attacks. Even these cannot lead to victory unless we adhere to the improved methods of warfare adopted in the recent offensives."

In every case where the well tried principles of the manual of infantry training and appropriate additions made by the higher command were properly applied, success was gained at small cost.

For example, the Eleventh Division in the course of the attack southwest of Noyon on June 9 and afterward succeeded in the difficult, hilly, wooded country, strongly protected by entanglements, in breaking the enemy's resistance and fought with good results for many days. They suffered small casualties considering the violent nature of the fighting.

"The new principles of warfare were properly applied by the leaders of all grades. It is absolutely essential that we avoid the old fault of attacking in too dense formations. To reduce our casualties every possible means must be taken."

"This necessity holds equally good at defensive points even though they are likely to become offensive points. Divisions of the line must do their utmost to reduce casualties to an absolute minimum by distribution and depth and by the creation of an extended outpost zone."

"In spite of instructions too much attention still is paid to the possession of ground and the holding and retaining of portions of trenches, villages, parts of roads and fighting points which have no value except prestige."

Tells of Reduced Strength.

"Now more than ever division of the line and the attack must make use of the elastic defense, even the so-called 'unhealthy' parts. This procedure has been proved of value repeatedly in the group of armies under Duke Albrecht."

"Owing to our reduced strength on the line it will frequently be impossible to make the front line a continuous line of trenches, but it will almost always be found possible to create centres of resistance, and these will be maintained by observation. No man's land must be secured by mobile patrols in order to render enemy enterprises difficult."

"Should the enemy gain a footing in our line commanders of all rank will carefully consider whether a counter attack really is necessary. Often the troops are quite happy without the possession of a particular piece of ground or trench, the capture of which the commander without due consideration thought he must risk a large number of lives."

### BRITISH AIRMAN FIGHTS 15, SENDING DOWN 5 PLANES

Pilot Returns to Camp With Own Machine Riddled and Rudder Hanging by Thread—Another Killed After Act of Mercy.

SPECIAL CABLE DESPATCH TO THE SUN FROM THE LONDON TIMES.

Copyright, 1918, all rights reserved.  
WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, AUG. 13.—Too much cannot be said in praise of the magnificent work of our airmen during the fighting between the Somme and Montdidier. They were everywhere, bombing, photographing, chasing away enemy fliers, directing the work of our infantry and artillery, and playing havoc with the German transport columns far back of the lines.

Pathetic is the story of one of our brave pilots who shot down an enemy plane and followed it to the ground. He saw the enemy pilot extricate himself from the mass of wreckage and was about to shoot when the German threw up his hands in token of surrender. Leaving him, he flew back toward our lines and was struck by four of the enemy and badly wounded, although he was able to land on our side. Running to his aid our men found him mortally wounded. They carried him as tenderly as possible to a field hospital, and there, while detailing his report, he died.

Another machine went out loaded with bombs and dropped them all. The pilot was returning to his base when he was attacked by fifteen enemy machines. Turning, he attacked the group single handed and soon sent one of them down in flames. The fighting then became a desperate one, our man turning, twisting, dodging, playing every trick in his bag. That he was a far better marksman than any of his adversaries was proved by the fact that our flier sent down four more of his enemies, three of them in flames.

Finally, his ammunition gone, the Britisher started for home and when he landed his machine was found to be literally riddled. His rudder had been chewed up by bullets and the under side of his plane looked like a sieve. How he ever got back with his machine in such a condition was a mystery to his commander.

One of our airplane squadrons, in addition to shooting down thirteen German fliers, wiped out three land batteries and silenced one anti-tank gun which was firing at our infantry. In one instance two or three members of this squadron dropped several bombs at one time on a column of enemy infantry, scattering the column and leaving 100 dead in the roadway.

One of our machines chased a railroad train loaded with troops, circling around the train and firing machine gun bullets into the windows. A companion seeing what was going on flew to his aid and as the latter machine was a bomber its crew began to drop bombs on the train and on the track ahead. Finally when the train stopped the passengers swarmed out of it and scampered into the woods like rabbits.

Incidentally one of our fliers performed a stunt which probably has no counterpart in the whole war. He scored a direct hit with a bomb on an enemy plane from above. The two had been circling about trying to get into position for an attack when finally our man gained the upper hand and while flying toward his adversary he let go an aerial bomb. Due either to extraordinary aim or miraculous luck it crashed into the German observer's engine. Instantly there was a terrific explosion, and where in one instant there had been a German machine and pilot in the air the next instant there was nothing.

### FRENCH FORCE OUT GUN NESTS

New Tactics Drive Back Machine Operators on the Way to 1916 Line.

PURSUIT IS LESS SWIFT

Allies Steadily Advancing in Somme-Oise Region, Despite Tough Resistance.

By GERALD CAMPBELL.  
SPECIAL CABLE DESPATCH TO THE SUN FROM THE LONDON TIMES.

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WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, AUG. 13.—Having just finished a visit to these American detachments which acted as the British right wing in the Somme fighting, particularly around Bray, I am permitted by the American and British commands to add a few additional facts concerning our small but historical participation in the second stage of what will undoubtedly be looked upon as one of the great battles of the war.

The following letter from a British to an American General will give a comprehensive idea of the value of our undertaking east of Amiens in the eyes of our brave allies:

"I wish to express to you my appreciation of the great assistance afforded to my division by your troops in the attack on Grasseval Wood yesterday afternoon and my admiration for the way you carried out a very difficult maneuver to get into the battle line."

"I include a letter of thanks which I would be glad if you would forward to the officer commanding."

The same officer who led the American detachments in the attack already had received congratulations from his own General for his cool courage and brilliant example in three hours of fighting, which required for France one small town and some wheat fields equivalent to Central Park in New York. The Americans captured ten machine guns, one 37 field gun and some prisoners.

Private John Fitzky, Chicago, said he was in one of the details that were sent west with the British into the town of Chilly, where the Germans with machine guns gave much temporary annoyance. He said the Americans and British charged the machine gun positions and soon cleaned them out.

Refugees are returning to Amiens in a "solid stream." The English "Black" Brigade has been ordered to the town of Amiens, which is being held by the French. The British tanks were of great assistance to our detachments, and as our men had received all their practical application of the principles of warfare from the British, and as the new uniforms it was exceedingly hard to discern the line of demarcation between the units of the two armies.

French Gains Small in Territory, but Important in Strategic Value.

#### RETREAT NOT ENDED

Strong German Positions Being Made Untenable by Artillery Fire.

#### CHECK SOUTH OF SOMME

Berlin Reports British Columns Trapped and Mowed Down by Machine Guns.

LONDON, Aug. 13.—French troops on the southern end of the Somme-Oise battle front continued their advance to-day, and while the territorial gains were comparatively small, the new positions captured from the enemy are of great strategic importance. The French are driving in on both sides of Noyon, which is their present objective.

In their drive for Noyon the French for the present have aimed for the heights, which will give them artillery positions to sweep the town with shells. To-day the French captured Lassigny Massif and fierce fighting immediately developed, the Germans attempting to retake the height, but in this they were not successful. Just to the south of Lassigny the French also occupied Plessis de Roye and also L'Ecouville. This latter town is three and one-half miles south of Lassigny.

The French by these moves have gained possession of the forests and hills between the Oise and the Marne and are throwing shells into Lassigny itself and later will turn their guns on Noyon.

The capture of Noyon, which would make the German hold on the Noyon-Roye-Chaulnes line precarious in the extreme, would also have an effect on the battle line running to Soissons and from there to the Vesle River.

Probably the most important victory of the French during the day was the capture of Lassigny massif, the chain of hills overlooking the town from the south. The French now have entire command of this important position, which enables them to dominate the town, the Valley of the Divette and the whole of the district to the north.

Massif Key to German Position.

The taking of this position is sure to have a disastrous effect on the Germans over a wide stretch of territory, and this effect should begin to be evident in the next day or two. The massif is the key to the old German position from which they commanded the whole Noyon district. It will have a similar value to the French as soon as they choose to make use of it.

With the French in this strong position and also in strong positions to the south of Roye, from which they are shelling the latter town, the Germans will either have to yield or else maintain their positions at tremendous loss of life. Already, due to the French capture of the Lassigny massif, the enemy has started a retirement from many positions in the Oise Valley and further retirements will almost surely follow as soon as the French artillery can be brought up. These guns will command the whole network of roads around Noyon, Roye and Nesle, making them a hard position for the Germans.

In the advance along the Oise Valley the French made a gain of one and a half miles to the north of Cambresis.

The French are moving also upon Noyon from the south through the Oise Valley and are exerting such strong pressure against the Germans there that a withdrawal movement has been started. The Germans have been holding Bailly, on the east bank of the Oise and about two miles east of Hiltcourt. To-day they were reported retreating to the west from the town, which is near the southern end of our great forest, a wooded section which is of great strategic value in that part of the battlefield.

German Begin Withdrawal.

In the northern section of the Picardy line the British encountered a greatly stiffened resistance, as a result of which they were unable to do more than hold the ground already won. All the British positions were strengthened, however, and additional prisoners were taken.

During the day the British improved their positions north of the Roye road and captured an enemy attack near Pousqueville. The Germans continued to bring up reinforcements and guns, apparently with the determination to hold the line and prevent the formation of a pocket between the Somme and the Oise. German big guns bombarded the allied rear areas during the day.

The British artillery now has the range of Chaulnes, and that city is being pounded by the British shells day and night. Further south the Allies are in positions which enable them to attack Roye with a never ending cross fire, and in the allied capitals it is not believed